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**WATER PUMP AND METHOD OF ASSEMBLY**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A water pump having a housing with an opening defined by an axial inner retention surface and a radial outer surface. A plug formed of sheet metal includes a radial closure portion surrounded by a continuous

5      axial flange adapted to be press fitted into the inner retention surface of the housing. Before assembly, an adhesive is applied to either the axial flange of the plug or the inner retention surface of the housing. The plug is then pressed into the housing so that the flange of the plug engages the inner retention surface of the housing. After the adhesive sets, a water tight seal is

10     formed between the plug and the housing adequate to hold pressurized coolant within the housing of the water pump.